



CIVIC TRUST

PUBLIC LOBBYING CO

*** Advocacy for the people ***

Civic Trust Public Lobbying Company strives for excellence and effectiveness. Our ultimate mission is to put into practice community ideas and magnify residents' voices in criminal justice, prison and drug policy reform utilizing collective resources already available to rebuild neighborhoods, communities and the state of Connecticut.

In SUPPORT OF THE FOLLOWING BILLS: RAISED SB 1230 AN ACT CONCERNING TRAFFIC STOP INFORMATION

Dear Judiciary Committee Members:

My name is LaResse Harvey; I am the Executive Director of Civic Trust Public Lobbying Company. Civic Trust Public Lobbying Company is a non-profit organization located in Plainville, CT. We work towards increasing civic engagement and advocacy in criminal justice, prison and drug policy reform. Our membership is in support of Raised SB 1230 "An Act Concerning Traffic Stop Information," and asks the Judiciary Committee to support this legislation and keep your vote YES.

Connecticut is home to approximately 100,000 Muslims a third of which are indigenous Blacks. Some of the Blacks who practice the Muslim religion are formerly incarcerated individuals who are creating a better life for their families and themselves. Why is this information important? Although SB 1230 An Act Concerning Traffic Stop Information does not include religion or pedestrian stops, Black males are stopped more often then anyone else in this state. I do not have a number to give you today, because there are no universal records to give us this valuable information. That is why I am asking you to support Senate Bill 1230 An Act Concerning Traffic Stop Information.

We can have tangible information that can be used to help this General Assembly and other policy makers create laws that are more equitable. Senate Bill 1230 An Act Concerning Traffic Stop Information, will do just that by allowing the Office of Policy and Management, which has the staff and authority, to request information from all Police Departments and Departments of Public Safety to report in a uniform way, who and why an individual is contacted by authorities.

In 2009, Office of Policy and Management Criminal Justice Policy and Planning Division reported on Disproportionate Minority Contact amongst adolescences. What was discovered in this report is that Black and Latino juveniles are overrepresented in the criminal justice system. This valuable information presented proposed legislation for Juvenile Justice Reform. The same is possible for adults if we have the right information. Raised SB 1230 An Act Concerning Traffic Stop Information will make this possible.

We know that approximately 70% of individuals incarcerated are Black and Latinos. The Penn Act was created to protect everyone in this great state from being harassed, punished and persecuted solely on the base of race, ethnicity and/or gender. I am asking that you support Raised SB 1230 "An Act Concerning Traffic Stop Information," so we can continue to develop a equitable holistic state, while increasing public safety.

Thank you,

LaResse Harvey

Executive Director

Civic Trust Public Lobbying Company

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